

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electrical terminal (30), comprising:

a first contact member (34) having an outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) for pressure engaging a first electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion (34b), the pressure contacting end portion having a given length;

a second contact member (36) having an outer pressure contacting end portion (36a) for pressure engaging a second electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion (36b), the pressure contacting end portion having a length greater than ~~that of a length~~ of the pressure contacting end portion of the first contact member;

a sleeve (32) including

an inner tube (40), fabricated of a conductive material, surrounded by an outer tube (42), fabricated of a dielectric material, with the enlarged inner end portions (34b,36b) of the contact members (34,36) being reciprocally slidably mounted in opposite ends of the inner tube (40);

a through hole (44) for slidably receiving the inner end portions of the first and second contact members,

said through hole having first and second open ends (44a,44b),

~~restricted stop means (46,48) at the open ends of the through hole for each contact member~~ for abutting the enlarged inner ends of the contact members to define outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members;

a biasing member (38) in the through hole of the housing to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions; and

said pressure contacting end portions (34a,36a) being defined as those parts of the contact members (34,36) which project beyond ~~opposite ends of the sleeve the open ends (44a,44b)~~ when the enlarged inner end portions (34b,36b) abut the restricted stop means (46,48).

2. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said biasing member comprises a coil spring (38) having opposite ends engageable with the enlarged inner end portions (34b,36b) of the contact members (34,36).

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) An electrical terminal, comprising:

a first contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a first electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a given length;

a second contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a second electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a length greater than a length of the pressure contacting end portion of the first contact member;

a sleeve including

an inner tube, fabricated of a conductive material, surrounded by an outer tube, fabricated of a dielectric material, with the enlarged inner end portions of the contact members being reciprocally slidably mounted in opposite ends of the inner tube.

a through hole for slidably receiving the inner end portions of the first and second contact members,

said through hole having first and second open ends,

restricted stop means at the open ends of the through hole for abutting the enlarged inner ends of the contact members to define outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members;

a biasing member in the through hole of the housing to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions; and

said pressure contacting end portions being defined as those parts of the contact members which project beyond the open ends when the enlarged inner end portions abut the restricted stop means;

The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein said restricted stop means at one open end of the sleeve (32) is formed by an inwardly turned flange (32) of the outer tube (32).

6. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein one of said restricted stop means is positioned at one open end of the sleeve (32) and is formed by an inwardly turned flange (48) of the inner tube (40).

7. (Currently Amended) An electrical terminal, comprising:

a first contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a first electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a given length;

a second contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a second electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a length greater than a length of the pressure contacting end portion of the first contact member;

a sleeve including

an inner tube, fabricated of a conductive material, surrounded by an outer tube, fabricated of a dielectric material, with the enlarged inner end portions of the contact members being reciprocally slidably mounted in opposite ends of the inner tube.

a through hole for slidably receiving the inner end portions of the first and second contact members,

said through hole having first and second open ends,

restricted stop means at the open ends of the through hole for abutting the enlarged inner ends of the contact members to define outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members;

a biasing member in the through hole of the housing to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions; and

said pressure contacting end portions being defined as those parts of the contact members which project beyond the open ends when the enlarged inner end portions abut the restricted stop means;

The electrical terminal of claim 6 wherein said restricted stop means at one open end of the sleeve is formed by an inwardly turned flange of the inner tube and said restricted stop means at ~~an~~ the opposite open end of the sleeve (32) is formed by an inwardly turned flange (46) of the outer tube (42).

8. (Currently Amended) An electrical terminal, comprising:

a first contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a first electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a given length;

a second contact member having an outer pressure contacting end portion for pressure engaging a second electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion, the pressure contacting end portion having a length greater than a length of the pressure contacting end portion of the first contact member;

a sleeve including

an inner tube, fabricated of a conductive material, surrounded by an outer tube, fabricated of a dielectric material, with the enlarged inner end portions of the contact members being reciprocally slidably mounted in opposite ends of the inner tube.

a through hole for slidably receiving the inner end portions of the first and second contact members,

said through hole having first and second open ends,

restricted stop means at the open ends of the through hole for abutting the enlarged inner ends of the contact members to define outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members;

a biasing member in the through hole of the housing to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions; and

said pressure contacting end portions being defined as those parts of the contact members which project beyond the open ends when the enlarged inner end portions abut the restricted stop means;

The electrical terminal of claim 7 wherein said restricted stop means at one open end of the sleeve is formed by an inwardly turned flange of the inner tube; said restricted stop means at the opposite open end of the sleeve is formed by an inwardly turned flange of the outer tube

and one end of the inner tube (40) abuts against the inwardly turned flange (46) of the outer tube (42).

9. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) of said first contact member (34) has a rounded convex contact surface (34e) for engaging the first electrical device.

10. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 1 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (36a) of said second contact member (36) has a rounded convex contact surface (36e) for engaging the second electrical device.

11. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 10 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) of said first contact member (34) has a rounded convex contact surface (34e) for engaging the first electrical device.

12. (Currently Amended) An electrical terminal (30), comprising:

a first contact member (34) having an outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) for pressure engaging a first electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion (34b), the pressure contacting end portion having a given length;

a second contact member (36) having an outer pressure contacting end portion (36a) for pressure engaging a second electrical device and an enlarged inner end portion (36b), the pressure contacting end portion having a length greater than a length that of the pressure contacting end portion of the first contact member;

a sleeve (32) including an inner tube (40) fabricated of conductive material and an outer tube (42) fabricated of dielectric material,

a through hole (44) in the inner tube for slidably receiving the inner end portions of the first and second contact members at opposite ends of the inner tube,

said through hole having first and second open ends (44a,44b) through which the pressure contacting end portions of the first and second contact members project,

a restricted stop at the open end of the through hole formed by an inwardly turned flange (46) of the outer tube (42) for abutting the enlarged inner end of one of the contact

members (34) to define an outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portion (34a) of the one contact member, and

a restricted stop at ~~an~~ the opposite open end of the through hole formed by an inwardly turned flange (48) of the inner tube (40) for abutting the enlarged inner end portion (36b) of the other contact member (36) to define an outer limit position of the pressure contacting end portion (36a) of the other contact member; and

a coil spring (38) in the through hole and having opposite ends engageable with the enlarged inner end portions (34b,36b) of the contact members (34,36) to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions.

13. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 12 wherein one end of the inner tube (40) abuts against the inwardly turned flange (46) of the outer tube (42).

14. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 12 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) of said first contact member (34) has a rounded convex contact surface (34e) for engaging the first electrical device.

15. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 12 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (36a) of said second contact member (36) has a rounded convex contact surface (36e) for engaging the second electrical device.

16. (Currently Amended) The electrical terminal of claim 15 wherein the outer pressure contacting end portion (34a) of said first contact member (34) has a rounded convex contact surface (34e) for engaging the first electrical device.